

REMARKS / ARGUMENTS

Claims 14-26 and 41-44 remain pending in this application. No claims have been canceled or added. Claims 27-40 were previously withdrawn.

Priority

Applicants appreciate the Examiner's acknowledgment of the claim for priority and safe receipt of the priority document.

Information Disclosure Statement

The Examiner has not considered German patent document No. 10014448 previously submitted. U.S. patents corresponding to this German patent document are being submitted in an accompanying IDS.

35 U.S.C. §112

Claim 19 has been amended to overcome the Examiner's rejection. The Examiner is hereby invited to contact the undersigned by telephone if any further changes are deemed necessary.

Interview

Applicants wish to thank the Examiner and the Examiner's supervisor for conducting an interview with the undersigned and Applicants' representative on November 15, 2005. The following includes arguments presented during that interview.

35 U.S.C. §§102 and 103

Claims 14-16 and 22 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Zalewski et al (U.S. Pub. No. 2002/0052914). Claims 17-21, 23, 24, 41 and 42 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Zalewski et al (U.S. Pub. No. 2002/0052914). Claims 25 and 43 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Zalewski et al in view of Ashok et al (U.S. Pub. No. 2002/0003063). These rejections are traversed as follows.

According to the present invention, a computer system has first resources including a first processor and a first memory. A storage system that is coupled to the computer has second resources including physical disks, a second memory and a second processor controlling access to the physical disks. The computer system and the storage system are partitioned to form virtual computers and virtual storage systems, respectively. In addition, the relationship between a virtual computer and a virtual storage system is managed by information that permits access from the virtual computer to the virtual storage system.

None of the cited references discloses these features of the presently claimed invention. As mentioned in the interview summary, the proposed amendment appeared to overcome the current rejection. Zalewski et al disclose a computer on which multiple virtual computers are configured. As shown in Fig. 9, computer 900 has CPUs 906, 908 and 910, I/O interfaces 912, 914 and 916 and a shared memory 924. The resources of the CPUs and the I/O interfaces are divided into three partitions, referred to as instances A, B and C. Private memories for each "instance" are prepared in shared memory 924 as instance A private memory 926, instance B private memory 928 and instance C private memory 930. Each instance with its private memory can form a virtual computer.

However, Zalewski et al are silent with respect to a virtual storage system. Furthermore, Zalewski et al are silent with respect to information managing access from a virtual computer to a virtual storage system. At best, Zalewski et al merely disclose the virtual computer of the present invention. The storage system of the present invention has a resource of a CPU, a memory and disks. However, the shared memory 924 of Zalewski et al does not have any resource of a CPU and disks. Therefore, such memory does not correspond to the storage system of the present invention.

In summary, the present invention discloses two types of virtual apparatuses having a relation that is managed by particular information. Zalewski et al merely discloses a virtual computer.

Furthermore, the deficiencies in Zalewski et al are not overcome by resort to Ashok et al. Ashok et al merely disclose dynamically reconfiguring partitions of a computer. In particular, a graphic user interface (GUI) is used to indicate a plurality of resources for reconfiguration. Ashok et al do not disclose plural types of virtual apparatuses interrelated as claimed.

Conclusion

In view of the foregoing, Applicant respectfully requests that a timely Notice of Allowance be issued in this case.

Respectfully submitted,

MATTINGLY, STANGER, MALUR & BRUNDIDGE, P.C.

By 
Shrinath Malur
Reg. No. 34,663
(703) 684-1120